



# MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## NEWSLETTER

20<sup>th</sup> November 2023,

*"In loving one another through our works,  
we bring an increase of grace and a growth in divine love." - Mother Teresa*

### **To** All In Our Learning Community,

*The World Day of the Poor was established by Pope Francis in 2016 highlighting the need to care for and reach out to the poor. In 2023 it was celebrated on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November. This year's focus is taken from the Book of Tobit, 4: 7 'Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor'.*

*In his message for the 2023 world day of the poor Pope Francis wrote,*

*We are living in times that are not particularly sensitive to the needs of the poor. The pressure to adopt an affluent lifestyle increases, while the voices of those dwelling in poverty tend to go unheard. We are inclined to neglect anything that varies from the model of life set before the younger generation, those who are most vulnerable to the cultural changes now taking place. We disregard anything that is unpleasant or causes suffering, and exalt physical qualities as if they were the primary goal in life. Virtual reality is overtaking real life, and increasingly the two worlds blend into one. The poor become a film clip that can affect us for a moment, yet when we encounter them in flesh and blood on our streets, we are annoyed and look the other way. Haste, by now the daily companion of our lives, prevents us from stopping to help care for others. The parable of the Good Samaritan (cf. Lk 10:25-37) is not simply a story from the past; it continues to challenge each of us in the here and now of our daily lives. It is easy to delegate charity to others, yet the calling of every Christian is to become personally involved.*

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20230613-messaggio-vii-giornatamondiale-poveri-2023.html>

*As a school under the patronage of Mother Teresa of Calcutta we have had the time and opportunity to consider the poor and ways that we recognise the poor and needy in our community. In the coming weeks our Mini Vinnies group will be inviting us to bring food items for the poor in our area as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. Over the course of the year we have also revised the story of the Good Samaritan and considered, 'Who is my neighbour?' Our wire figures remain a constant reminder of our outreach to others. The challenge is of course to put this into practices as Pope Francis is inviting us to do. What might this look like as our Catholic Dialogue School prepares to celebrate Christmas? How might we gain insights and inspiration from those who engage in outreach and care of the poor? How might we refocus on the call to help others and make this a common action?*

Kind regards,

**Chris**

## ***This Week's Happenings***

### ***Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November***

#### ***Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November***

*Year 5/6 – 3 Kid teaching Kids Conference*

*University of Melbourne*

*Professional Learning – School Organisation*

### ***Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November***

*Foundation 2024 Orientation sessions*

*Professional Learning – School Organisation*

### ***Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November***

### ***Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November***

*Zooper Dooper Friday*

### ***Year 6 Farewell Mass & Presentations***

Our Year 6 farewell Mass will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 7pm at Our Lady's Parish Church. Year 6 children and their families are asked to note this date.

### ***End of Year Whole School Mass***

Our end of year whole school Mass will take place on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm** at Mother Teresa Primary School. All welcome. **(Note time change 12.30pm)**

At our End of Year Whole School Mass we will take the opportunity to farewell Mr Reed. Light refreshments will follow the Mass.

### ***School Closure ~ Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December***

Staff will be involved in planning for 2024 with Kath Murdoch on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. **There will be no school for children on this day.**

### ***2024 Books Packs, Fees and Levies***

#### ***Book Packs***

A flier regarding Book Packs for 2024 has been distributed. Please refer to our webpage if you have misplaced yours. <https://www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au/enrolment-information/fees-levies/> The take-home book boxes are no longer available through the Backpack and will need to be purchased through the school. They are \$10.

#### ***School Fees & Levies 2024***

The family school fee in 2024 is \$1,722 (concession applies to eligible families). The levy per student will remain at \$ 312

Please note the student levy is payable by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2024. Prepayments of this levy can be made prior to this date.

#### ***Year 5/ 6 Camp 2024***

The Year 5/ 6 camp will take place at Lady Northcote Camp Bacchus Marsh in Term 2 Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. The cost of the camp is \$454.

### ***Parents & Friends News***

*The Parents and Friends group supports the building of our learning community through numerous social and fundraising events.*

#### ***Christmas Raffle***

Our Parents and Friends are organising a Christmas Raffle. Tickets will be forwarded to families soon.

#### ***Term 4 Zooper Dooper Fridays***

Each Friday in Term 4 our Parents & Friends will be selling Zooper Doopers for \$1 at lunch time.

Sales take place between 1:40pm – 2:10pm. If you are able to assist with sales please register your name at reception.

### ***What's Happening in the Learning Spaces***

*"Parents should be educated in the language of schooling, so that the home and school can share the expectations, and the child does not have to live in two worlds – with little understanding between the home and the school". John Hattie, 2009*

#### ***Foundation – Year 2 Learning Spaces***

**Learning is an act of meaning making where individuals connect new experiences to existing schema and reflect, process and construct understanding over time. (Kath Murdoch, 2022)**

We will begin to consider **ethical decisions** and have conversations about what is right and wrong. A thinking routine that will assist us is The Tug of Truth. This routine encourages us to have a conversation about what is right and wrong. This routine helps us appreciate the deeper complexity of fairness situations that can appear black or white on the surface. It also encourages us to think of why we support a certain side of the dilemma. In connection with our inquiry, we will think about whether zoos are good for animals. We will be **courageous** learners and explain why. Some of us will have opportunities to share our thinking as a writing piece where we aim to persuade and influence our readers.

To continue extending our ideas around ethical decisions, we will find out about what the Catholic faith says about people caring for living things. We will read the text, Caring for God's Earth. As we read, we will be **making connections** to what we already know about our common home and the impact of human choices. The thinking routine **Connect Extend Challenge** will assist us to make connections to the idea of ethical responsibility and identify new ideas that can strengthen our understanding. We will consider...

- What connections can we make between what we already know about our common home and our actions?
- What new ideas do we have now? What actions can we take now that we have read about what Christian people believe about caring for the earth?

In **mathematical thinking**, some of us will be reflecting on what we've discovered around the concepts of **multiplication** and **division** as we engage in post assessments. We will also consider how we feel about our thinking so far. We will think about how confident we are with our current understanding, whether we can teach others and if we might need to practise some concepts. Most of us will have an opportunity to **tune into** the concept of **measurement** and engage in pre assessments to highlight our strengths and challenges. As **thinkers**, we will **activate our prior knowledge** and **identify new ideas** about the words and language associated with volume, capacity and mass such as heavier, lighter etc. We will make direct and indirect comparisons to decide which items are longer, heavier or holds more and use the thinking move reasoning with evidence.

## ***Bridging Centre***

### ***Year 3– 4 Learning Spaces***

Last week we had the opportunity to observe our Butterfly Chrysalis hatch and turn into some beautiful Monarch butterflies. This gave us an opportunity to focus on observing and documenting our thinking by labelling, drawing and observing the butterflies closely. As we've had to release them into the school yard already, we will now reflect on this experience and identify how they grew and changed over the time. We are beginning to compare and contrast different living things to help notice how they can be so different. Over the next week or so, we will be having the opportunity to pause on the inquiry and think about some of our key concept words such as growth, change, habitat, life cycle. We will be making connections to our discoveries and identifying how we can use our knowledge to take action in the coming weeks.

As mathematicians, we are continuing to explore the concept of money. Through ordering the coins, making different amounts, solving the correct change when buying different items and worded problems, all children will be making connections to their everyday lives and how important money is. This is a great opportunity to engage in dialogue with your child about money and the cost of different things. They could be identifying the change they receive from a payment or how much more they need to save to purchase something they like.

As we continue with our inquiry, we are still writing and reading a range of factual texts. From looking at their features, structure or purpose, children will be exploring a range of different texts and having a go themselves to write some about living things of their interest.

This week is the last week to borrow books from school, so please have a look around your house and make sure that all school books are returned as soon as possible.

## **Leadership Centre**

### **Year 5– 6 Learning Spaces**

The Kids' Conference was created as a response to seeing how students interact with and learn through their experiences, their peers and their environment by experimenting with new technologies in a way that wasn't being reflected in the curriculum at the time we started. Luckily this is changing and we'd like to think the Kids' Conference presenters and their teachers have been a big part of this. Since our early beginnings the Kids' Conference has been able to bring this concept into the mainstream and profile leading educators and their students as facilitators and learner-researchers.

The Melbourne Graduate School of Education (MGSE), The University of Melbourne hosts this event in Melbourne. <https://kidsconference.online/about/thekidsconferencestory/>

Tomorrow we have been invited to represent Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School at the 11<sup>th</sup> Kids Conference Australia at Melbourne University.

As part of our sustainability learning, as curious researchers, we have had the time and opportunity to engage in finding out about worm farming, organic waste, how our school is energy and power efficient, gardening and the significance of being plastic and package free.

At the Kids Conference as courageous contributors we will be using our communication skills to offer ideas and inspire others about worm farming. Our presentation will include a video clip about worm farming in our learning community. We will be sharing factual information about worms, our worm farms, and ideas about how to maintain a healthy worm farm.

We would like to thank Mr. Reed for helping and supporting us with the process of our presentation, giving us feedback, and encouraging us to contribute our ideas. Thank you to Danielle Reed for filming and editing our video clip, and giving us advice on being animated and confident communicators.

Ethan, Bianca, Isaac, Nate, Maisey, Christian, Massimo, Vivien and Maddie.

### **Term Four Dates 2023**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday 20 December  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December

Foundation – Year 2 excursion to CERES  
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Kolbe Orientation Day Year 7 2024  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Year 6 Farewell Mass 7pm – Our Lady's Church  
School Closure Day - planning 2024

#### **No school for children this day**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

#### **Whole school end of year Mass 12.30pm – Mother Teresa School**

Year 5/6 Bowling Excursion

#### **Term 4 ends for children at 1.30pm**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Staff professional learning / planning

Staff professional learning/ planning

Staff end of year

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Christmas Day

The following dates are correct at the time of printing. Please read the newsletter each week and note the weekly happenings.





## CARDIO TENNIS

### ADULT TENNIS AND FITNESS PROGRAM

#### ABOUT:

The **NEW** Cardio Tennis Adult Program is here and it is **EXCITING**. Hume Tennis will have two streams of Cardio Tennis for people to enjoy.

**Cardio Lite** is ideal for those learning to play tennis and looking to get fit. **Cardio Play** is for intermediate players who love to play points.

#### Program includes:

- ☐ 50% off all programs for 2023
- ☐ Just \$10 per class
- ☐ Unlimited classes per week
- ☐ Movement Challenges
- ☐ For beginner to advanced players
- ☐ Social and friendly



**\$10**  
per class

cardio  
lite



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## Junior Tennis Membership

#### LEARN AND PLAY:

We have an amazing 4 stage tennis program for children to get into tennis. For just \$22.00 p/week a junior membership includes:

- ☐ A Hot Shots tennis lesson
- ☐ Access to play and practice on the 16 courts anytime
- ☐ A friend/parent can play with child for **FREE**.
- ☐ Complimentary entry to selected tennis events & holiday programs

#### AWARD WINNING VENUE:

- ♦ The 2014 Tennis Australia Newcombe Medal for Hot Shots
- ♦ "2023 Club of the Year" Tennis Victoria

ENQUIRIES:  
1300 HUMETC [486 382]



"My 3 children (ages 11, 8 and 6) started tennis last year - they love their lessons and we are always going to the courts to practice as a family"  
- Liz (mother of Louis, Freddie and Jacob)

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DPV Health Presents

# The Best Time in History to be a Dad Webinar

By **Jeremy Macvean** from **The Father Hood**

Dads today can be more actively and emotionally involved in their kids' lives than ever before. This has multiple upsides for men, for their children & for their relationships. Are you making the most of the opportunity?

The webinar will explore the benefits and challenges of being a dad in 2023, how to navigate modern fatherhood, & provide inspiration for what these changes can deliver for you & your family.



WEDNESDAY  
6 DECEMBER  
7PM- 8PM  
**2023**  
ONLINE



[www.thefatherhood.com/CLWQDP](https://www.thefatherhood.com/CLWQDP)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

RSVP by Wednesday 29th November



**For more information contact:**

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